

Working In the Dark

CIA: The Inside Story. By Andrew Tully. 276 pp. New York: William Morrow & Co. \$4.50.

By JACK RAYMOND

ANDREW TULLY'S "Inside Story" of the Central Intelligence Agency is an extremely readable book. Its contents, however, obviously were garnered outside and not inside our country's most publicized secret organization. Moreover, some of its highly questionable material reflects on the accuracy of the entire work.

Here are tales of the United States' efforts in the black arts of espionage and subversion. Some of these should not be new to careful newspaper readers. For example, they add little more than has appeared already about the 1954 overthrow of the Arbenz regime in Guatemala, the U-2 affair and the Cuban fiasco. Other stories offer fiction-like glimpses of the C. I. A. operations behind the Iron Curtain—indeed, within the Kremlin walls.

There are even American Mata Haris. Mr. Tully tells us, for example: "Notable among these feminine operatives is a woman with a wooden leg who has parachuted into enemy territory twice and once was forced to shoot her way out of a trap in West Berlin." The book this lady could write would be more interesting than the one Francis Gary Powers inevitably will.

One of the most interesting of the author's yarns is not about a C. I. A. agent, but about Col. Rudolf Abel, the captured Russian spy. Although the C. I. A. cooperated, the F. B. I. exposed him after tracing the source of a hollow nickel that was used to pass microfilmed secrets.

Mr. Tully, a former Scripps Howard columnist, presents these cloak and dagger stories in appropriately zippy style. But his formal acknowledgment of a "considerable debt of gratitude" to Allen Dulles, former head of the C. I. A., and other high officials, implied more cooperation than they were willing to confirm.

MR. DULLES, when invited by the publishers to comment on the book, wrote: "The Tully book, in my opinion, does not contain 'the facts' about the C. I. A. In part it is a compilation of rumor, hearsay and republication of previously published speculation about the C. I. A. Much of the book is fiction. In its description of C. I. A. activities it contains gross inaccuracies and distortions. Some statements in the book are repetition of Communist propaganda which over the years has been directed toward the destruction of C. I. A. by Moscow and other Communist centers."

The publishers, we under-

stand, will withdraw the acknowledgment of gratitude in future printings of the book. They also have indicated they will correct Mr. Tully's failure to distinguish between the German banking house of Schroeder and the independent British outgrowth of the firm with which Mr. Dulles' law firm had business connections. Communist propaganda frequently ignores this distinction in their attacks upon the C. I. A. and its former chief.

More than that, however, Mr. Tully reports as authentic a German version of a conversation with Mr. Dulles during which Mr. Dulles may have said to the German whom he was talking to, "I am not a spy." The German remarks imply that Mr. Dulles was trying to make a point of stating that he was not a spy. The German version of the conversation was untrue.

Some of Mr. Tully's yarns of C. I. A. operations around the

world reinforce the charges that this agency has been playing an unusual role in foreign affairs. The C. I. A., according to Mr. Tully, foiled a plot against King Hussein of Jordan, overthrew Premier Mossadeq of Iran, abetted the overthrow of King Farouk of Egypt (then picked Naguib and ignored Nasser), committed Nationalist China to the strengthening defense of Quemoy and Matsu, created the feeble "strong man" Government of Laos, and "discovered" Col. Joseph Mobutu in the Congo.

It all makes interesting reading, but it is hard to believe that the C. I. A. has been either that effective or that free-wheeling, even if some State Department sources tended to instillate the same. It is too bad that this well-written book should have such a cloud over it. For with Mr. Dulles' recent retirement from the C. I. A. that he moulded, if not created, a good wrap-up of his career would be useful. Perhaps our "master spy" will himself write us a more authoritative book. Or at least let us in on some real "inside" stories.



Francis Gary Powers, U-2 pilot on trial for spying, Moscow, August, 1960.